



Proclamation

Presented to the

Muscular Dystrophy Association – Hawai`i Chapter

WHEREAS, ALS Awareness Week raises awareness of the impacts of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), also known as Lou Gehrig's disease, which is a progressive fatal neurodegenerative disease that attacks nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord, making even the simplest movements – walking, speaking, gesturing – nearly impossible; and

WHEREAS, ALS was first recognized in 1869 by French neurologist Jean-Martin Charcot; and

WHEREAS, ALS affects approximately 30,000 individuals in the United States with 5,000 new cases appearing annually and approximately 15 new cases diagnosed daily; and

WHEREAS, ALS strikes people regardless of race, age, sex or ethnicity; and

WHEREAS, ALS is presently incurable and its symptoms are mitigated with aggressive treatments; finding the causes of and cure for the disease will save the lives of thousands; and

for over 60 years, the Muscular Dystrophy Association's (MDA); and

WHEREAS, ALS research efforts to find treatments and a cure are led by the MDA through aggregate expenditures for services and research which total more than \$290 million; aggressive worldwide research and ADA/ALS clinical programs, including clinics on O`ahu, Hawai`i Island, Maui and Kaua`i; and


WHEREAS, ALS awareness encourages the public to take note of this serious disease and become engaged in ways to provide support and services for families in Hawai`i dealing with ALS;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, BRIAN SCHATZ, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai`i, do hereby proclaim May, 2012, as

“ALS AWARENESS MONTH”

in Hawai`i, and encourage citizens of the Aloha State in recognizing the efforts of the Muscular Dystrophy Association – Hawai`i Chapter's efforts to finding a cure to end amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

DONE, at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai`i, this twenty-seventh day of April, 2012.


NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai`i


BRIAN SCHATZ
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai`i